

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) An injection-moulded plastic flange for mounting accessories on a thermoplastic hollow body, capable of closing off, in a sealed manner, an opening cut into the wall of this hollow body, the said flange having a thread on its periphery.
2. (Currently amended) The flange according to ~~the preceding~~ claim 1, which is capable of receiving a ring for holding its assembly with the hollow body in place.
3. (Original) The flange according to claim 1, wherein the plastic used to make it has a low permeability to gases and liquids.
4. (Currently amended) The flange according to ~~the preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the plastic is selected from the group consisting of polyacetals, polyamides, polyesters and polyvinylidene halides.
5. (Original) The flange according to claim 1, wherein the hollow body is a fuel tank for a motor vehicle.
6. (Currently amended) The flange according to ~~the preceding~~ claim 1, which has mounted on it at least one accessory of a fuel tank, ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of a pump module, a volume gauge, a pipette connected to a line for the inflow or outflow of liquid and/or gaseous fuel, a connector and an electrical cable.
7. (Original) The flange according to Claim 5, wherein the fuel tank consists of at least two shells made of a multilayer thermoplastic, the shells being welded to one another.
8. (Original) A fuel tank for a motor vehicle, which has at least one accessory mounted on an accessory-mounting flange according to Claim 5.
9. (Currently amended) The tank according to ~~the preceding~~ claim 8, wherein the impermeability to gases and liquids is provided by the interposition of a compressible seal between the flange and that wall of the tank which is located near the opening, it being possible for the seal to be held in the compressed state by tightly screwing the ring onto the thread of the flange.
10. (Original) A process for manufacturing a fuel tank that includes a flange according to

Claim 7 for mounting at least one accessory, wherein the following steps are carried out, in the order indicated:

- a) a seal is placed in a groove cut out around the periphery of the flange and facing the wall of a shell, around the perimeter of an opening cut into the latter;
- b) the flange is positioned over the opening, so that the seal bears all around the perimeter of the opening and so that the opening passes through the threaded part of the flange;
- c) a ring is screwed onto the threaded part until abutment, against the outer wall of the shell, of the surface of the flange hugging the groove; and
- d) the shell bearing the flange is welded to at least one other shell so as to obtain a tank.